(v) Sophisticated Safety devices inducted to reduce human element in accidents.

(c) Among the Railway Staff, Drivers, Guards, Carriage and Wagon staff, Permanent Way staff constitute a major proportion. Apart therefrom, drivers of road vehicles are responsible.

(d) 947 persons lost their lives in these accidents and loss to Railway property has been estimated at Rs. 43.86 crores.

(e) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

(f) During April '84 to June 87, 777 Railway servants involved in accidents were awarded major penalties including 13 dismissals, 235 removed from service, 70 compulsorily retired and 334 reduced in rank. 2339 were awarded minor penalties viz. withholding of increments, stoppage of Passes PTOs etc.

(g) and (h) While some accidents have been attributed to sabotage, no organised sabotage activity or foreign hand in the train accidents has come to the notice of the Government.

High price wheel set manufactre by railways wheel an axle plant at Bangalore

483. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA:

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railway's Wheel and Axle Plant at Bangalore had fixed the price of its wheel-set for a box-wagon at Rs. 30,400/- for the year 1985-86 while the cost of an imported wheelset inclusive of customs duty in the same year, was less than half i.e., about Rs. 15,000- if so, what are the persons therefor; and

(b) what are the steps taken by WAP to reduce the cost of production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) The price of a wheelset from Wheel & Axle Plant, Bangalore was fixed at Rs. 31,000/- in 1985-86. This included an element of development suspense which has to be cleared in the initial years. The actual cost of production was Rs. 27,036 only.

With regard to the cost of an imported wheelset, this has been varying from time to time and it is well known that in some countries, the price is not strictly based on cost considerations. Even though the duty iclusive price of an imported BOX-N wheelset was Rs. 14,500 (approximately) in 1985-86, the present day imported price is Rs. 29,000 (approximately). The possibility that the earlier import price was merely a supported "dump" price cannot be ruled out.

(b) Steps have been taken to contain the costs by controlling spoilage that normally takes place in steel foundries, minimising the consumption of various materials, optimising production etc. The Plant being highly automated, the number of workers have been kept to the barest minimum. The expenditure on the direct and indirect labour and administrative staff is only 4 per cent of the total expenditure. Efforts are continued to try minimise additional inputs and reduce the cost of production by maximising productivity.

Appointment of President and Vice-President in Medical council of India

484. SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased:

(a) whether it is a fact that Medical Council of India for the last two months has been functioning without its President and Vice-President, in whose absence the executive Committee could not meet to decide various important matters pending for long;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps are being taken by Government to fill these posts for the normal working of this organisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE) (a) to (c) On account of an iterim order of the High Court of Bombay, the President of the Medical Council of India is not performing his duties and the matter is still sub judice. As regards the Vice-President, the Government is looking into a complaint reregarding his holding office as Vice-President during the extended period of his membership of the Council under section 7(ii) of the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956. Steps will be taken under the provisions of the relevant Act for the normal working of the Council.

Central Education Tribunal

485. SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Law Commission has recommended the establishment of a Central Education Tribunal to deal with the educational matters;

(b) what are likely to be the functions of such a tribunal; and

(c) by when it is likely to be commissioned?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, the Law Commission had in March, 1987 circulated a Working Paper on decentralisation of administration of justice to elicit views of the concerned agencies on a proposal to established a Central Education Tribunal, which if, established would deal with matters relating to causes controversities and disputes in which Government Universities; Colleges, Teachers and Students are involved.

(c) Does not arise.

Talks between All India Federation of University and College Teachers and Government

486. SHRI RAM CHANDRA VIKAL:
SHRI KAPIL VERMA:
SHRI SOHAN LAL DHUSIYA:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the talks held recently between the All India Federation of University and College Techers and Union Government official ended inconclusively;

(b) if so, what are the reasos therefor, and what are the details of subjects discussed;

(c) whether Government are considering to take a unilateral decision in this regard; and

(d) if so, by when and what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) The Department of Education had held detailed consultations with the representatives of the All India Federation of University ad College Teachers Organisations on June 10—12, 1987 on the proposals for revision of pay scales and other related matters. The purpose of the these consultations was to explain to the representatives of teachers the details of the proposals which the Governmetn had under consideration. The teachers also expressed their views on them. These consultations were not intended to lead to any mutually acceptable conclusions.

(c) and (d) The Government have communicated the decision on revised pay scales, effective from 1.1.1986, to all State Governments etc. on June 17, 1987